

HMI Mike Cunningham's assessment of Cheshire Constabulary – Transcript

Hello. I'm Mike Cunningham and I'm Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary for Cheshire. I am one of five inspectors, and our role is to inspect police forces on behalf of the public. Each year we produce an annual assessment of how each force is performing.

I would like to commend the force for its excellent performance in keeping people safe and reducing crime. I am extremely pleased with the progress Cheshire Constabulary has made in 2015.

The force has a good understanding of the demands on its services. It has processes in place to inform leaders on the resources and levels of service that will be needed across every part of the force. In 2015/16, in addition to making the required savings, the force was able to recruit 53 officers.

I was pleased to find that the force's restructure in June 2015 has led to an improved service to the people of Cheshire. I was particularly impressed with the work carried out as part of the force restructure to make beat management and problem solving a day-to-day part of the new local policing teams' work.

The force engages and works well with the communities it serves.

I was impressed by the different methods the force uses to understand people's views and how the force then responds to these.

In the year ahead, I will be particularly interested to see how the force improves how it uses stop and search, as well as how it manages its response to serious and organised crime. I will also be interested to see how the force develops its collaboration with Cheshire Fire and Rescue service.